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SPELLJAMMER™

ON THE JUNGLE PLANET

BORODA™

Kesel
•
Collins
•
Fern
•
Acerno

..OXENBAR MEANS DEATH!™

TRIAL BY WILDFYRE

THERE IT IS!

YES...

CAREFUL, EVERYONE-- I DON'T WANT TO LOSE *ANYONE* TO THE OXENBAR...

I WANT TO HAVE YOU ALL WITH ME WHEN WE FIND WHO OR WHATEVER LET ALL THE MONSTERS LOOSE FROM THEIR PROTECTED VALLEY.

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SPEARS AND SWORDS, FOLLOW ME.

WE'LL GET ITS ATTENTION AND HERD IT TOWARD YOU.

GO!

NETTERS, CIRCLE LEFT AND SET YOUR TRAP.

RAWWRRRRR

HERE WE ARE, CREATURE-- TRY YOUR CLAWS ON *US!*

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BE CAUTIOUS-- HE DOESN'T KNOW WE'RE ONLY BUYING TIME FOR THE NETTERS!

RAWWWRRR

GHRAAAAAA!

AAAAAAH!

WE MAY BE PAYING FOR THAT TIME IN BLOOD, BORS!

RAWWRRR

SNIKT

EYAUGH!

BENGA! GET TAUD CLEAR OF THAT THING!

I DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO KILL IT TO SAVE HIM!

YES, YES, BORS-- YOU'VE TOLD US OF THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING ALL SPECIES MANY TIMES--

--BUT I WON'T LET IT HARM MY CHILDREN--

--OR YOU, MY LOVE.

GRAAAAHHH

RAWWRR

NETTERS! WE'RE READY!

READY FOR YOU. SEND HIM IN.

JIEN! CAN YOU TURN HIM FROM THERE?

NOT EASILY ...

HE'S A SMART BEAST. I THINK HE KNOWS WHAT WE'RE PLANNING ...

HE'S FIGHTING ME ...I CAN'T KEEP MY GRIP TO--

UNHH--

BORS!

RAWWRR

WHACK

WANT TO KEEP YOUR LIFE, CREATURE?

THEN NO MORE OF THAT LURCHING!

RAWWWRRRR

LOOSE THE NETS --WE'LL CUT JIEN CLEAR AFTER THE OXENBAR'S PINNED.

RAWWWRRRR

NGH!

WHOOOOO!

YAAAAAH!

CAN'T AFFORD TO BE KIND ANYMORE...

...YOU'RE COSTING US TOO MANY MEN!

THOK

RAWWWRRRR

I'D RATHER KEEP THEIR LIVES THAN YOURS, MONSTER!

TWANNG

RAWRRR

JIEN!

RAWWWRRR

LEAVE ME, BORS--THE OXENBAR'S ALMOST FREED ITSELF--GET IT!

YOU'RE RIGHT --ITS CLAWS CAN CUT THIS NET FASTER THAN MY SWORD!

MAHC! KOLN! PULL HER CLEAR! I'LL KEEP THE BEAST DISTRACTED!

RAWWRRR

TANNAH-- NO! STAY BACK! THE CREATURE'S WOUNDED, TOO UNPREDICTAB--

--LLLGH!

WHACK

BORS!

I'M FINE! HIS CLAWS ONLY CAUGHT MY ARMOR!

HE *KNOWS* I'M CAUGHT--HE'S USING ME TO KEEP YOU FROM ATTACKING!

HE CAN SENSE YOU'RE HOLDING BACK!

THEN HE SHOULD ALSO REALIZE WE'RE *NOT* TRYING TO KILL HIM!

BUT IF HE FORCES ME TO *CHOOSE* --

--*YOURS* IS THE LIFE I'LL PROTECT WITH MY OWN!

GRAAAAAHHH

I WISH I WERE AS CERTAIN AS YOU-- ALL I SEE IN HIS EYES IS *BOTH* OUR DEATHS.

NOT WHILE I STILL BREATHE--

RAWWRRRRRRRR

SEEMS ALL I DO ANYMORE IS GET PEOPLE OUT OF TIGHT *SITUATIONS.

WHAT --?

WHO --?

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN...

YOU ALWAYS DID HAVE GOOD *TIMING*, MOTHER.

MOTHER?

MEREDITH'S SOMEBODY'S *MOM*--?

SO, IT'S **MEREDITH** THESE DAYS--WHEN DID THIS LATEST IDENTITY CHANGE OCCUR?

SHORTLY AFTER **YOU** ABANDONED MAGIC TO TRAVEL TO THIS TINY BACKWARD WORLD.

I NOTICE YOU'VE TAUGHT THE NATIVES THE COMMON TONGUE. PLANNING A RETURN TO CIVILIZATION?

YOU'RE LOVABLE AS EVER, AREN'T YOU? THEY HAD NO FORMAL SPOKEN TONGUE. I KNEW COMMON. NOTHING MORE THAN THAT.

SO WHAT BRINGS YOU TO **BORODA**? IT ISN'T MY BIRTHDAY...

I'M SADDLED WITH A ...PROBLEM CHILD, ONE BADLY SUITED FOR HIS BIRTH WORLD.

GIVEN HIS WILD SPIRIT AND LOVE OF VIOLENCE, I THOUGHT HE MIGHT FIT IN WELL HERE.

SO YOU WANT ME TO TEST HIS POTENTIAL AS A FIGHTER.

YES. RAISED BY WORSHIPPERS OF **PEACE**, HE'S HAD **NO** PRIOR TRAINING.

SO...WANNA SEE THE STARS WITH ME SOMETIME?

HIS NAME'S TEMBER...

OVER THERE--THE ONE ATTEMPTING TO SEDUCE YOUR YOUNG AMAZONS.

HMMM... NOT MAKING THIS EASY, ARE YOU?

MAHC! SEAN! THAT BOY NEEDS TO BE OUTFITTED FOR TOMORROW'S EXPEDITION.

SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH HIM.

COME WITH YOU?

WHY?

I WAS ONLY TALKING...

I WASN'T--

COME, I WANT YOU TO MEET YOUR GRANDCHILDREN.

OH, NO!

I HAVE NO GRAND-CHILDREN!

I AM NOT OLD ENOUGH FOR GRAND-CHILDREN!

MOTHER...

YOU'RE MY MOTHER. THEY'RE MY CHILDREN. ERGO, YOU MUST BE OLD ENOUGH TO--

ENOUGH, BORS.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM, MOTHER?

RUMOR HAS IT YOU WERE PAST SEVEN HUNDRED WHEN I--

ENOUGH!

I DON'T WISH TO PURSUE THIS DISCUSSION, BORS.

<LOOK AT THE CHILDREN! AREN'T THEY WONDERFUL!>
<SO DIFFERENT FROM HOME ...>
<CAREFUL, LITTLE ONE, YOU'LL-->
<OOPS!>
<KIRSTIG!>
<I'LL GET IT BACK FOR YOU!>
<DON'T BOTHER, RUPAU...>
<...THE HELMET DOESN'T MATTER.>
<IT'S MERELY A SYMBOL OF AUTHORITY ON A WORLD OUR FEET NO LONGER TOUCH.>
<I'M NO ELDER HERE.>
<LET THE CHILD HAVE IT AS A TOY.>
<WELL, FAR BE IT FROM ME TO BEHAVE MORE PIOUSLY THAN YOU.>
<HERE, YOUNGLING.>
<WHAT A WARM SUN THEY HAVE!>

THESE WINGS ARE STRONGER, BUT NOT AS RESPONSIVE AS ON THE LAST WORLD.

IT'S GETTING HARD TO REMEMBER LIFE WITHOUT THEM. HA! NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE THE DAY I *LIKED* HAVING THEM...

JUST LOOK AT THIS... *CITY*. IF THEY COULD SEE *WATERDEEP*, WHAT WOULD THEY THINK? THEIR WHOLE VILLAGE WOULD FIT INSIDE PIERGEIRON'S PALACE...

WATERDEEP. I WONDER... WILL I EVER CALL IT *HOME* AGAIN? WILL I WANT TO?

I THINK I ENJOY THIS SPACE-TRAVELING LIFE.

MEREDITH'S BEEN GREAT TO ME SO FAR.

SHE'S NOT AT ALL WHAT I IMAGINED SHE'D BE--SOME OGRE WHO MADE MY PARENTS DIE GUARDING HER HORDE.

ALTHOUGH SHE'S HARDLY THE *CAUTIOUS* TYPE...

AFTER THE TROUBLE WITH THE *NEOG!*...

...BUT YOU FIND ENEMIES WHEREVER YOU GO. THAT'S JUST HOW LIFE IS.

I'D BETTER HEAD BACK DOWN. DON'T WANT TO OFFEND MY HOST BY STAYING AWAY TOO LONG.

SHE'S BACK!

THE WINGED ONE!

I WANT A FEATHER!

WE SAW YOU UP THERE!

I WANT TO TOUCH THEM!

UM... PLEASE DON'T... KEEP BACK... I... UH...

CAN I GET WINGS?

HAVE YOU ALWAYS HAD WINGS?

WILL YOU CARRY US WHEN YOU FLY AGAIN?

WILL YOU CARRY ME?

NOW YOU KIDS CLEAR OUT OF HERE AND LET OUR GUEST CATCH HER BREATH!

-N-NO, I HAVEN'T *ALWAYS* HAD WINGS...

KIDS!

THEY CAN BE SUCH A *PAIN*, CAN'T THEY?

I GUESS...

I HAVEN'T REALLY HAD MUCH EXPERIENCE WITH CHILDREN...

I'M *TENAH*. YOU'RE JASMINE, RIGHT?

HEY! WHAT'D I JUST SAY, PUPS?

GET OFF HER!

SCAT!

UH... PLEASE DON'T...

I WANT A FEATHER!

BOY, TENAH--YOU'RE JUST LIKE YOUR FATHER!

I HOPE YOU'LL HAVE TIME TO TALK AFTER THE FEAST--THERE'S SO MUCH I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU!

IF THERE'S TIME FOR CHATTER... MEREDITH MAY NEED ME FOR SOMETHING.

TENAH!

DID YOU TALK TO HER?

JASMINE--

TALK TO HER?

YES.

SHE SAID...

SHE'S NOT INTERESTED IN ANY OF OUR PLANS.

WE'RE JUST KIDS.

--COME INSIDE. BORS HAS A REQUEST TO MAKE OF YOU.

LET ME GUESS--IT HAS TO DO WITH WINGS.

AH, JASMINE--VERY GOOD. DID MO-MEREDITH EXPLAIN WHAT I WANTED?

NO. WHAT'S UP?

AS YOU MAY HAVE GUESSED, I'M NOT A NATIVE OF THIS WORLD.

WHEN I FIRST CAME TO BORODA, ITS PEOPLE WERE ALWAYS IN DANGER FROM THE LARGE WANDERING MONSTER POPULATION.

I HELPED DEVISE A WAY TO CAPTURE THE CREATURES, HERDING THEM INTO A PROTECTED VALLEY.

THE VALLEY'S ONLY EXIT IS CLOSED BY A BARRICADE DESIGNED TO WITHSTAND ALL ATTACKS, ACTUALLY GAINING STRENGTH WHEN PRESSURE IS APPLIED.

A DWARVEN DESIGN. FOOLPROOF.

OUR SCOUTS FOUND THE *REMAINS* OF THE BARRICADE WHILE INVESTIGATING THE OXENBAR'S ESCAPE. IT WAS DELIBERATELY DESTROYED BY AN INTELLIGENT CREATURE.

Catoblepas

THE GATE WAS *DELIBERATELY* DESTROYED?

BUT I THOUGHT...

BY THE TIME WE DISCOVERED THE DAMAGE, *SEVERAL* OF THE MONSTERS HAD ESCAPED THE VALLEY. MOST ARE HEADING TOWARD OUR VILLAGE, THE NEAREST SOURCE OF FOOD.

OUR SCOUTS ARE MONITORING THEIR POSITIONS, LAST KNOWN LOCATIONS ARE MARKED ON THIS MAP, AND WE'RE SLOWLY HERDING THEM ALL BACK TO THE VALLEY.

MEREDITH HAS OFFERED HER HELP IN EXCHANGE FOR TEMBER'S TRAINING.

WE COULD USE YOUR WINGS TO HELP KEEP THE SCOUTS' REPORTS CURRENT AND ALERT US TO ANYTHING *UNUSUAL*.

BUT I'M AFRAID WE HAVE NOTHING TO OFFER YOU BUT COOKED OXENBAR.

LOOK, I'LL BE HAPPY TO HELP, BUT WHY BOTHER KEEPING THESE MONSTERS *ALIVE*? WHY NOT JUST HUNT THEM ALL DOWN?

BECAUSE THEY'RE A VALID AND NECESSARY PART OF THIS WORLD.

I DON'T WANT TO SACRIFICE MY PEOPLE, BUT A BALANCE MUST BE MAINTAINED.

IF WE JUST KILL THEM ALL, WE RUN THE RISK OF OFFENDING THE GODS WHO HOLD THEM SACRED.

BORS, YOU WILL HAVE TO ACCEPT THAT *SOME* MAY NOT BE WORTH SAVING WHEN *HUMAN* LIVES ARE AT STAKE...

...I HAVE NO QUALMS ABOUT KILLING *MONSTERS*.

ONE MORE THING...

THERE AREN'T--

ARE THERE--

AM I GOING TO BE DODGING *FLYING* PREDATORS UP THERE?

WE HAVE A FEW...

...BUT A *WALLED*-IN VALLEY NEVER MEANT ANYTHING TO THEM.

BORODA HAS NOTHING BIG ENOUGH TO HURT YOU.

NO GRIFFONS, PEGASII, DRAGONS, ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

I'VE GOT TO FIND THE OTHERS!

THEY'LL KNOW WHAT WE SHOULD DO!

AND AT EACH DAY'S END, WE TELL THE TALE OF ITS PASSING, ADDING IT TO THE STORY OF OUR TRIBE.

READY, OFFWORLDER?

THEN DEFEND YOURSELF!

WHOOOF!

WHACK

THOK

<THIS IS THE TALE OF SURROUNDING...>

GOT YOU NOW!

DEFEND, PROTECT, SHIELD.

YOUR STICK IS MAGIC?

TENAH!

I HEARD SOMETHING!

BORS IS SENDING THE WINGED GIRL OUT TO SPY! WHAT'LL WE DO? WE'VE GOT TO WARN WILDFYRE!

BUT THERE'S THE FEAST TONIGHT...

SLOW DOWN... WHAT EXACTLY DID THEY SAY?

UNGH!

CAUGHT YOU, YOUNGSTER!

OOOOF!

YOUNGSTER, IS IT?

THEN MAYBE I'D BETTER FIND MY OWN YOUNGSTER TO FIGHT!

HERE, RENC!

INSTEAD OF JUST SULLENLY *WATCHING*, YOU CAN GET IN SOME PRACTICE TIME!

YOUR DAY WILL COME WITH TIME AND PRACTICE, NOT STANDING AROUND!

PLAY YOUR STUPID GAMES YOURSELF--

--I DON'T FEEL LIKE IT RIGHT NOW!

WE HAVE GIANT BEASTS CALLED *DROGES* WHO CARRY OUR GEAR FOR US -- THEY'RE SO BIG CHILDREN CAN PLAY GAMES ON THEIR BROAD FLAT BACKS.

TWO OF THEM CARRIED OUR LITTLE SKYSHIP FOR DAYS AND DAYS!

ON OUR WORLD, THEY'RE THE *ONLY* THING STRONGER THAN *HANNOUS*!

AND YOU CAN SEE HOW EASILY *HE* LIFTS YOUR WAGON!

HOLD STILL, TEMBER!

ARE YOU DONE YET? IS THIS IT?

A CHANGE IN GARB WILL DO YOU GOOD, YOUNG MAN.

I'M NOT USED TO HAVING NOTHING ON MY LEGS--COULD WE CHANGE THAT?

NOT THAT I DON'T LIKE WHAT YOU'VE MADE, NOTHING LIKE THAT...

...IT'S JUST... IT'S...

...WELL, IT'S DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I'M USED TO.

RELAX, TEMBER.

OF COURSE, I'M USED TO DRESSING EXACTLY LIKE EVERYONE ELSE.

SELF-EXPRESSION THROUGH OUTERWEAR IS NOT BIG ON UNIPAXALA...

WHAT DO YOU THINK, YARS?

TEMBER LOOKS LIKE A FINE WARRIOR! GIRLS WON'T BE ABLE TO STAY AWAY!

I DO? THEY WON'T?

YOU KNOW... YOU'RE RIGHT! I DO LOOK PRETTY GOOD!

CLINT EASTWOOD

CHARLIE SHEEN

THE ROOKIE

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